"Gender, this thing we’re all seemingly born with, is a major restraint to self-expression."
~ Kate Bornstein

Course Description

The sociology of gender originated in the 1970s when feminist sociologists argued the importance of paying attention to the lives and experiences of women, which were largely ignored by mainstream sociology. Thus, originally gender scholars focused primarily on topics relating to women and femininity. More recently, however, there has been a growing literature on men and masculinity and increased recognition that gender is relational: we cannot fully understand issues pertaining to women and femininity without also understanding issues pertaining to men and masculinity. Today, the study of gender is highly interdisciplinary and is premised on the notion there are multiple expressions of gender (meaning that there are not singular forms of femininity or masculinity) and that these expressions are often the result of the ways in which gender intersects with other bases of distinction and stratification.

This seminar is roughly divided into two sections. In the first half of the course, we will begin by exploring the origins of the sociological analysis of gender. We will then focus on some key conceptual and theoretical issues in gender studies more broadly; this will include an examination of the ways in which the relationships between gender and race, ethnicity, class, and sexuality have been theorized. In the second half of the course we will consider selected empirical analyses that examine the relevance of gender in various social arenas. These studies examine the meanings of gender at the individual, interactional, institutional and cultural levels.

Readings

5. A variety of articles available electronically through Canvas ([EL] in the schedule)
Canvas

There is a Canvas site for this class and you will be automatically added. I will use Canvas to post important notices and announcements, handouts, and some of the course readings. I will also use it to send group email messages should the need arise. Canvas will also be a place for you to ask questions to other students in the class for which everyone might want the answer.

Please bring the readings each week to class so you are able to refer to them in the course of discussion.

Course Evaluation

1. Facilitation of discussion: After the first three weeks, each student will be responsible for signing up to facilitate discussion **twice** throughout the semester. Weekly facilitation groups will be comprised of 2 students. Leading discussions will require that you coordinate with your group members to meet and develop a short presentation (about 10 minutes) of the most important points from the readings and a set of questions that you will then use to lead classroom discussion (for approximately half of the class time). The questions must be emailed to me by 9 a.m. on the day of class and I will then post them on the Canvas site for everyone to access.

2. Seminar participation: This course is designed as an extensive reading and discussion workshop. For the seminar to be successful it is imperative that students come to class having done the readings for each week and that students actively participate in class discussions.

3. Research paper: Each student will write a 10-12 page research paper on a related course topic of her/his choosing.

4. Exams: There will be two in-class essay exams (a midterm exam and a final exam). Possible exam questions will be distributed prior to each exam.

Grade distribution:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion facilitation (2 X 5%)</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL 100%**

If you are having personal or academic problems impacting your success in the class, please let me know. If there is an emergency that requires you to miss an exam or your discussion facilitation, you must inform me **as soon as possible**. You cannot miss successive classes and expect that you will be able to make up everything you have missed; extensive absences will result in a failure of the course. I do not give incompletes except for in the case of extreme emergencies.

Academic Integrity
Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University, and the University’s Academic Integrity Policy requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty are required to report all infractions to the Office of Judicial Affairs. The policy on academic integrity can be found at http://sa.sjsu.edu/judicial_affairs/students/academic_integrity.html. (Instructor note: If you need more information about what constitutes plagiarism, cheating, or academic integrity, please do not hesitate to contact me and we can discuss this further).

Disabilities Policy

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities register with DRC to establish a record of their disability.

I look forward to an exciting semester together!
COURSE SCHEDULE (Tentative)

--I reserve the right to change the schedule if needed.
--Weekly readings are in preferred reading order

8/27 (Week 1): Introductions

SECTION 1: THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS

9/3 (Week 2): The Origins of the Sociology of Sex and Gender

9/10: (Week 4): How has Gender Been Theorized (I)?

9/17 (Week 4): How has Gender Been Theorized (II)?
3. Crawley et al., Gendering Bodies. CH 1-2

9/24 (Week 5): Gendered Bodies
1. Crawley et al., Gendering Bodies. CH 3-4

*RESEARCH PAPER TOPIC DUE

10/1 (Week 6): Agency and Resistance
1. Crawley et al., Gendering Bodies. CH 5-6
10/8 (Week 7): Gender Inequality
1. Ridgeway, Framed By Gender. CH 1-3

10/15 (Week 8): Gender Inequality
1. Ridgeway, Framed By Gender. CH 4-7

*LIST OF REFERENCES FOR PAPER DUE

10/22 (Week 9): MIDTERM EXAM

10/29: (Week 10): Gender, Race, and Class

11/5: (Week 11): Gender, Race, and Class

11/12 (Week 12) Gender and Sexuality (I)
2. Pascoe, Dude You’re a Fag. CH 1-3

11/19 (Week 13): Gender and Sexuality (II)
1. Pascoe, Dude You’re a Fag. CH 5-6

ROUGH DRAFT OF PAPER DUE

11/26 (Week 14) Gender, Family, and Work

12/3 (Week 15): Course Wrap-Up
2. To be announced

--Presentation of Research Paper Findings
--Final Exam Review
**RESEARCH PAPER DUE**: Friday, December 6th (Upload to Canvas by 5:00 p.m.)

**FINAL EXAM**: Friday, December 13th: 2:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.